

"bone diggers". We felt we were really part of the community. Kay Low and I reminisced this summer about the dances which we all enjoyed. Killarney was an enchanting place, and to find it much the same in 1985 was a joy.

Dr. Spiegel gave us a tour of his establishment. (Note: Dr. Spiegel purchased the property where KB1 was located in a real estate transaction several years ago - B.P.) I'm sure Doc (Greenman) would be amused to know the cabins are now functioning as a guest house and sauna. We found the chimney of the main cabin still in place in KB1. Doc (Greenman) burned his own toast at the fireplace each morning. It was the only way he liked it.

I assume since you knew Dr. Greenman, you have all his publications about the area. If not, I would be happy to send you a list and make copies of any you do not have.

I have quite a number of pictures from the 1947 season. They are mostly of the students, excavating on the George Lake trail, and that sort of thing.

It has been fun for us to think again about those days. The things I enclose are for you to use in anyway you wish.

Doc often spoke of the need for a book about Killarney and the Manitoulin region. He would be delighted to know you are doing it.

Letter from the late Thomas E. Lee

By Bruce Pitfield

On October 15, 1981, Mr. Lee wrote Mr. Pitfield to state in part:

The Early Man story for your area is both fascinating and very involved. I regret to say that much of the difficulty in understanding it is political in nature.



A student of Dr. Greenman's constructs an aerial ladder made from trees. He then ascends it and gets a bird's eye view of the uncovered artifacts at one of the archaeological sites.

Both GL1 (Dr. Greenman's B.P.) and Sheguiandah (in which Mr. Lee was actively involved B.P.) have been very extensively published. The Greenman publications, like mine, are scattered.

Briefly: Greenman was in error with his age evaluations, as he came to realize. When I last talked with him, at the end of 1955, he acknowledged before a large audience of scientists that GL1 is only 6,000 years old. That is the date I would put on it too.

The mistake was natural enough, given the information he had. A broken specimen, unmodified, was found in the beach. The other half, smoothed as from wave action on a beach, lay below the level of the beach. Almost anyone would have concluded that the worn half had been thrown out in the water. The trouble was, as my work later demonstrated, the worn surface did not result from wave action. Therefore, occupation of the beach would NOT be pinned to the time when the water was that high. His case collapsed.

Robert Bell - that would be Dr. Bell of the Geological Survey of Canada. I know nothing about the skeletons you mention, but until recent years, "early man" would have meant anything prehistoric, say up to 1600 A.D. (after the death of Christ B.P.)

I doubt if much significance should be attached to (Dr. Bell's) report, concluded the late Dr. Lee.

Two other discoveries

In the summer of 1886, the Parry Sound North Star reported that some men from

North Bay found, in one place, the bones of over two hundred human beings at the mouth of the French River. The remains were believed to be Iroquois who came up from Lake Ontario two hundred years ago on a hunting expedition and who in a night massacre were attacked by a band of Huron Indians.

The Spring of 1928 saw labourers, who were employed at the Northern Development gravel pit near Birch Island, discover a human skeleton under a large oak tree when the men were blasting while

doing road work. Near the skeleton were found several flint tools such as skinning knives, axes and flint chips in a most remarkable state of preservation. Everyone was clean and shiny as if in use. Considering the time required for the growth of a large oak tree, the time it would take to start the tree growing on the grave and the century or so it would take to rot, it would not be an exaggeration to estimate that this native person had been there for four hundred years.

Dr. Greenman's explanation of archaeology

When asked how he would define archaeology, Dr. Greenman told me that as far as the New World is concerned archaeology is the excavation of pre-historic dwelling places and workshops on raised beaches. He further explained that a raised beach is a ridge of sand or rocks where the water, that constructed it, is no

longer up to that level. It is said to be raised, he stated, because the land where it is, has been uplifted. And, this took place because of the last glacier, with weight so great it compressed the earth's crust, but when it melted back, the crust began to rise back to its original position.



Some of the artifacts unearthed near the Chikanishing River.

The latest news on the Sheguiandah site

Just last month, (May 31, 1991) a public information meeting was held at Sucker Creek's Community Centre on previous and current research with the Sheguiandah archaeological site.

Here is the press release that was handed out by Dr. Ronald Williamson, Project Director:

The Sheguiandah site, a quarry, workshop and habitation area located on a large outcrop of white quartzite on the northeastern shore of Manitoulin Island in Lake Huron, is recognized as an archaeological site of international significance. However, no large scale excavations have taken place there since those conducted by the late Thomas E. Lee of the National Museum of Canada in the 1950s. These investigations revealed large quantities of lithic (chipped stone tool) manufacturing debris, discarded preforms or blanks and other quartzite implements both on the surface and to depths of several metres in the quarry pits and adjacent bogs.

In the relatively level "habitation" area of the site, Lee reported a stratified sequence of five cultural levels, defined largely on the basis of differences in tool technology. Most spectacularly, however, Lee's studies led him to the conclusion that the earliest of these cultural levels lay below geological sediments deposited during the last Ice Age, known as the Wisconsin glaciation. He therefore suggested that the site was first inhabited circa 30,000 years ago.

Lee's interpretations created a controversy that has persisted in the archaeological literature. The site continues to be proposed as evidence of an extremely early human presence in the province, known as the pre-Clovis phase. More recently, however, various alternative hypotheses, mainly relying upon geomorphological studies, have been proposed to account for the presence of artifacts in the preglacial levels.

At present, Dr. Pat Julig of Laurentian University, Dr. Peter Storck of the Royal Ontario Museum, and Dr. William Mahaney of York University are conducting studies of cores extracted from one of the bogs on the site. This work will provide material for various sedimentological studies of the local soils, using sophisticated techniques such as Scanning Electron Microscopy, in

order to test their earlier findings that Lee's "preglacial" deposits are the result of more recent local geologic events rather than the earlier Wisconsin glaciation. The pollen and plant macrofossils from the cores are also being analyzed by Thane Anderson, of the Geological Survey of Canada, to obtain data on the vegetational changes that have occurred through time in the region. In addition, six wood samples from the basal levels of these cores have been submitted for radiocarbon dating in an effort to determine the date of initiation of sedimentation on the site and hence a geological base date for human occupation.

Dr. Julig is also conducting a technological analysis of the quartzite artifacts collected by Lee in order to isolate possible changes or continuities which may exist between the cultural levels. This work, representing the first detailed analysis of the Sheguiandah artifacts, will allow comparisons to be made with similar early sites elsewhere such as the Meadowcroft Rockshelter in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Despite the fact that many questions remain to be addressed regarding Sheguiandah, it is clear that the presence here of a readily available supply of quartzite suitable for tool manufacture served to make the area a focus of activity from the earliest human presence in the province. In recognition of the unique importance of Sheguiandah, it has been designated as a protected site under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The importance of preserving the site was demonstrated in the Fall of 1990, when a standard archaeological assessment was carried out on three potential sites of a proposed water treatment facility in the Sheguiandah area. These investigations - carried out by a team of archaeologists under the direction of Dr. Ronald F. Williamson of Archaeological Services, Inc. of Toronto, Ontario, and Dr. Julig - uncovered evidence of substantial archaeological remains on two of the three properties and therefore recommended that they remain undisturbed.

Archaeological Services has also assembled an expert team, including Dr. Julig and Dr. Storck, to carry out an archaeological Master Plan on behalf of the Municipality of Howland, the Sheguiandah

First Nation and the Ojibways of Sucker Creek. This is a multi-phase study designed to establish guidelines which will ensure the preservation of archaeological remains in the area, and to plan for the conservation and public interpretation of cultural resources.

One of the major components of this work, commencing in the Spring of 1991, will be a re-examination of the areas of the Shegulandah Site originally investigated by Thomas Lee. This work will involve minimum disturbance to the site, while at the same time, allowing observation of the evidence on which Lee based his controversial interpretations concerning the age of the earliest human occupation of the site. Final resolution of this question is beyond the scope of the project, however,

this work will be extremely helpful in suggesting the directions that future research must take in order to resolve this dating problem.

The re-investigation of the Shegulandah Site is of significance not only because of the site's potential for providing new data concerning the early human occupation of Ontario, but also because it is part of a larger programme of research in the area which has been designed in close co-operation with the local Native groups in an effort to create a detailed inventory of all archaeological sites in the area. The ultimate goal of this work is to recommend a mechanism by which their continued preservation and protection may be ensured.

New method of dating prehistory

By Bruce Pitfield

In a recent issue of The Watchtower the following paragraph was noted:

'For decades, historians and paleontologists have often relied on radiocarbon dating to estimate the age of fossils. However, according to TIME magazine, "those estimates, while valuable, are also known to be somewhat uncertain." The magazine added that "carbon 14 levels in the air - and thus the amount ingested by organisms - are known

to vary over time, and that can affect the results of carbon dating." After comparing the results of a carbon 14 test with a uranium-thorium test, a group of geologists at the Lamont-Doherty Geological Laboratory in Palisades, New York, found that the "radiocarbon dates may be off by as much as 3,500 years - possibly enough to force a change in current thinking on such important questions as exactly when humans first reached the Americas."



This is Lumsden's Lake. The GL1 site is below on each side of the peak in foreground looking south.

European travel in the upper Georgian Bay

By Bruce Pitfield

The late Frank Myers, Frank Major, Rev. William Munro and a host of other researchers and writers have told of life in this part of Canada in various publications. Among these writers were Jesuit priests such as the Reverend Theotime Couture. He gathered much of his material from notes kept by his Roman Catholic predecessors. We learn from these men and others that fur traders, missionaries and people of other occupations and professions travelled over this section of what was to become part of Ontario.

In 1912, when Frank Major was editor and publisher of *The Recorder*, he published a very good historical insight into Manitoulin's past. A reprint of this newspaper was done by the present publisher-editor Mr. John McQuarrie a few years ago. As well, researchers can access the particular issue from a microfilm and associated printer by requesting the 1912 microfilm of *The Recorder* through Inter-library loan from such repositories as The Sudbury Public Library.

The NorthWest Company, The Hudson Bay Company and other mercantile firms sent employees throughout the much-travelled 'Voyageur Route' that lies on the Lake Nipissing-French River-Killarney-North Channel - Sault Ste. Marie corridor.

By 1846, copper was the big attraction in the Bruce Mines area. This was eight years after 'The Establishment' at Manitowaning was begun, and marine travel was on the upswing in our region.

An advertisement in a Montreal newspaper in July, 1848 mentioned that the steamer GORE will, for the months of July and August, leave Sturgeon Bay (Coldwater, Ontario district) every Tuesday morning at four o'clock for Owen Sound, Manitoulin, Saint Joseph's Island, Bruce Mines and Sault Ste. Marie. On the return

trip, the GORE would leave the Sault every Friday morning calling at the intermediate places.

By 1855, Collingwood was the major departure point for vessels leaving for the North Channel. Although there was still activity being carried on over the Voyageur Route, this passage was becoming less and less used for a number of reasons. A railroad into Collingwood meant faster, economical travel to the threshold of the Manitoulin-Upper Georgian Bay.

Lumbering operations on such rivers as the Spanish, Mississagi, Wanapitei and others would bring about still more travel. Settlements would spring up at North Shore points as well as on the Manitoulin Island.

The Geological Survey of Canada had been sending its employees into the district since the 1840s and soon the tentacles of Government would reach out from other departments such as Customs, Marine and Fisheries, etc., to make their presence known in the Huron-Superior Territory.

Larger and more powerful vessels began transporting men, equipment and supplies via the Georgian Bay. Embarkation points such as Owen Sound, Parry Sound and many other ports would play a large role in this new realm of travel.

Still, later, more rail lines would reach ports on the Georgian Bay.

Scholars and others who were interested in Early Man in this section of North America eventually would come to do research and excavations. Among these people would be: Dr. Wilfred Jury and his wife who are synonymous with Sainte-Marie-Among-the-Hurons near Midland; Dr. Emerson Greenman with Killarney and Manitoulin; Thomas E. Lee with Sheguiandah, to mention only a few.

Their work has touched the minds and hearts of thousands.



The late John de Lamoraudiere whose ancestors founded Killarney in 1820. John assisted Dr. Greenman in a variety of ways during the latter's years that he spent at Killarney.

Sacred Burial Grounds

We must never forget that many Natives who lived, worked and died, hundreds or thousands of years ago in our region, were buried or died at these sites.



Delvina (Roque) Pandke, Doris (Bernard) Low and Kathleen (Roque) Carriere in their early years at Killarney. These young ladies attended dances at the Parish Hall with Dr. Greenman, his students and dozens of other people on Saturday nights.



Two Killarney ladies, Mrs. Genereux (left) and Mrs. Godin, and their children who lived on property along the Killarney road in 1939. Dr. Greenman's university vehicle is seen on the left.



Ted and Emila (Landriault) de Lamorandiere at their Killarney home in 1953. Emilia (or Millie) was cook for Dr. Greenman.



The above map - given to Mr. Pitfield in 1972 - was produced by the late archaeologist Dr. Emerson Greenman. Dr. Greenman spent 17 summers in the Manitoulin District (late 1930s - early 1950s) conducting

archaeological field work of primary importance. This map previously appeared in a 1970s Northern Life article by Mr. Pitfield.

Archaeology in Northeastern Ontario

A few years ago Thor Conway of the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation's Historical Planning and Research Branch published a pamphlet on archaeology. In this publication, Mr. Conway makes note that "there are more than a thousand known archaeological sites in the Northeastern Region of Ontario." The Manitoulin District falls within this region of archaeological research.

Cultural Periods

Mr. Conway identified these cultural periods and approximate ages: Paleo-Indian, 8,000 B.C.; Middle Woodland, 400 B.C. to A.D. 800; Late Woodland, A.D. 800 to A.D. 1600; and finally A.D. 1600 to the present time.

The initials B.C. stand for Before the Birth of Christ and A.D. stands for after the Death of Christ.

Conway has listed the Sheguiandah site on Manitoulin Island in the Paleo-Indian culture. The Killarney sites are included in the late Paleo-Indian period.

Paleo-Indian Period

Here is what Mr. Conway wrote about this cultural period: "The earliest evidence of human occupation studied so far in northeastern Ontario is concentrated in the Lake Huron basin. Between 9000 B.C. and 7000 B.C., a quartzite knoll of Manitoulin Island was used as stone tool quarry and campsite by late Paleo-Indian groups. The Sheguiandah site contains large quartzite pre-forms for tools, stone knives, scrapers, and an occasional lance head. Its full story is complicated and long. Similar late Paleo-Indian sites were discovered in the Killarney area at places like George Lake. Originally, these sites stood on the shorelines of large lakes that were ancestral to the present day Great Lakes. As the glacial ice retreated, the land rose and water levels fell step by step for several thousand years. Now the beach ridges lie well above Lake Huron. The potential for similar sites is evenly spread from Lake Superior's relic shorelines, now hidden by the dense boreal forest, to the shores of

nearly forgotten post-glacial lakes in the Abitibi and Temiskaming districts.

The reliance on quartzite as raw material for larger stone tools continued for eight thousand years.

Digs at Palaeo-Indian sites around the Great Lakes show that the inhabitants of this region had hunted mastodons and caribou. They generally adapted to a tundra-like environment often living within sight of the slowly retreating glacier. They may have cremated their dead.

We know that early man lived throughout Ontario where ever newly deglaciated areas appeared. These initial chapters of prehistory are sketchy. To recreate daily life so far in the past, we may always have to supplement the facts with imagination.

Arrowheads Seen as Proof of Primeval Occupation

On September 4, 1952 an article appeared in The Globe and Mail newspaper of Toronto by Don Delaplante under the above title. It stated: What is believed to be the most important archaeological discovery ever made in Canada was made public in Killarney by Dr. Emerson F. Greenman of the Museum of Anthropology of the University of Michigan.

Dr. Greenman stated that tangible evidence - in the form of two peculiar ancient arrowheads, deep beneath glacial boulders - has been found that primeval Sandia Man once roamed the north shore of Georgian Bay. Sandia Man, who gets his name from the Sandia Mountains of New Mexico, is the oldest form of human life found in the New World, and dates back 18,000 years.

Dr. Greenman said the arrowheads, which seemed to denote the presence of Sandia Man were actually found three years ago, but that announcement of the significance of the discovery had been delayed until adequate research was made.

The arrowheads, which each measure three and a half inches in length, are peculiar in so far as they are notched only on one side for fitting to the shafts of the ancient arrows. Arrowheads of less ancient eras are notched on two sides.

The finds were made five miles northeast of this isolated village in a strata of gravel a about 15 inches thick, beneath a plain of about two acres, situated 56 feet above the present level of Lake Huron.

The plain is covered with huge boulders weighing up to 400 pounds which could have been deposited only when the ice cap receded from this district almost 20,000 years ago, Dr. Greenman said.

However, scientific caution compelled him not to make a finalized claim till the site was examined by the world's foremost authority, on ice movements during the Ice Age, Dr. Ernst Antevies. Dr. Greenman said Dr. Antevies will visit the area next July. Dr. Antevies is author of the report of the National Museum of Canada on ice movements.

The arrowheads were taken from one of the three major sites which have been explored since 1938 by parties of Americans led by Dr. Greenman. Precedent-shattering discoveries have also been made at the two other sites. One of them is located on low ground two miles from

Killarney. The other is on a mountainside 297 feet above the present level of Lake Huron, seven miles from the village.

All three sites are ancient beaches once part of the shoreline of prehistoric Lake Algonquin, which at one time embraced all and more than Lakes Huron, Michigan, and Superior.

Dr. Greenman had believed that the 297 foot site was the oldest camp of man east of the Rockies, until evidence was accumulated that the arrowheads found at the 56 foot site were Sandia material, and older.

Dr. Greenman reasons that the site may actually be only 6,000 years old. By the same token, the sensational quantitative discovery made by Thomas Lee of the National Museum of Canada at Sheguiandah - with artifacts numbering in the thousands - may only be 3,000 years old rather than the 5,000 or 6,000 claimed.

"There is no doubt that our 297-foot site is twice as old as Lee's at the least, and today I'll settle for 6,000 years," Dr. Greenman said.

Killarney - Manitoulin Island areas in the 1840s

Researched by B. Pitfield

In January 1848, Alexander Murray Assistant Provincial Geologist wrote to his superior, Mr. W.E. Logan to report on the season's work for 1847.

Following are some details taken from Mr. Murray's report.

Leaving Sault Ste. Marie on the 7th June we were occupied until the middle of August in exploring portions of the north shore of the lake and of the Manitoulin Islands, parts of which, owing to the inaccuracies of the map supplied me, it became necessary to survey topographically, for the purpose of exhibiting correctly the result of my inquiries. The principal of these measurements commenced at the north-west end of the Island of La Cloche, and proceeded thence to and through the Petit Courant, along the Bay of Sheguenandod and farther, keeping to the west shore of the Manitowaning Bay, to Manitowaning.

With this was connected a survey of a suite of lakes in the interior of the Grand Manitoulin Island, the largest of which, occupying a very extensive area, is more particularly mentioned in another part of the Report.

Geographical Characteristics North Coast of Lake Huron west of the French River

The greater portion of the immediate coast line on the north shore of Lake Huron, in so far as my observations extended, may be described as generally poor and rocky, in some parts wholly destitute of vegetation, in others thickly clad with trees, which however are of stunted growth and of inconsiderable value. These marginal forests are chiefly composed of trees common to the colder and more mountainous parts of Canada, the species being balsam fir, spruce, red and white

pine, white birch and poplar, predominating on dry parts, while white cedar and tamarack abound on the swampy and moister ground. But while the coast line exhibits this uninviting appearance, the interior in many places presents a very different character, especially in the valleys of the principal streams, where there are frequently to be seen extensive flats of rich and deep soil, producing maple, oak, elm, birch and basswood, besides occasional groves of both red and white pine of large size. Various places of this description have been cleared and cultivated by the Indians, and where such has been the case, as at Spanish River, notwithstanding the rude state of aboriginal agriculture, the crops of maize and potatoes are nearly equal in both quantity and quality to those usually seen in the more favored latitude, and under the more enlightened system of tillage in Canada West.

The principal streams, some of which are so favored, are the Thessalon, the Missisagui, the Serpent and the Spanish Rivers. The first two of them, taking their origin far in the interior, where the country is represented to be spotted with numerous small lakes, run in a south easterly direction, and fall into Lake Huron within twenty-five miles of each other, the Thessalon nearly opposite the north point of Drummond Island, the Missisagui nearly due north from the west end of the Grand Manitoulin. The Serpent and the Spanish Rivers, whose mouths are fifteen miles apart, flow nearly due west for many miles of the lower part of their course, but rise a great distance to the northward, where they are connected, as the former two, with many small lakes. The exit of the Spanish River is about fifteen miles west from the Hudson Bay Company's Post at La Cloche, and the Serpent therefore will be about thirty from the same point.

To the westward of the Spanish River the coast is for the most part low, but precipitous and rugged; it abounds with safe and commodious harbours among its numerous islands and inlets, which can scarcely fail in many instances to become, in the course of time, of commercial importance. To the eastward of the river the scenery is improved by the gradual approach of a high range of picturesque hills, coming out upon the coast about four miles westward of the Hudson Bay Company's Post at La Cloche. They are known there as the La Cloche Mountains, one of their highest points was ascertained to be 482 feet above the level of the lake.

This part of the lake is thickly studded with islands, and the coast is much indented with extensive bays and inlets, which offer shelter and security, during any storm to which the voyager may be exposed; indeed, the whole coast from Sault Ste. Marie to the French River possesses advantages with respect to harbours that cannot be surpassed, but some of those which are of the safest description when entered are dangerous and difficult to approach from the open lake, in consequence of the numerous reefs and sunken rocks lying concealed outside of them.

To the eastward of the Manitoulin group of Islands another change occurs in the character of the scenery, and between Shebawenahning, an Indian trading post about thirty miles east from La Cloche, and the French River, the coast and islands are for the most part low rocks entirely destitute of vegetation. The La Cloche hills recede to the northward, and those being lost to the eye before we reach the French River, there extend to the horizon in the direction in which they vanish, a dreary and desolate waste of low broken country, while the water of the lake bounds the prospect to the south.

Lake Huron and the Manitoulin Islands

A ridge of land which, proceeding from the vicinity of the Falls of Niagara, sweeps round the upper extremity of Lake Ontario, and running thence into the promontory of Cape Hurd and Cabot's Head, is represented in continuation by the Manitoulin Islands, divides Lake Huron into two parts, which may be called the south and the north. The south part constituting the great body of the lake, with a circumference exceeding 720 lineal miles has an area of about 14000 square miles; the north portion is again divided into two parts, the east and the west, the former of which, called Georgian Bay, extending from Nottawasaga to Shebawenahning (Killarney) and the eastern extremity of the Grand Manitoulin Island, with a length of 120 miles and a breadth of 50, has an area of about 6000 square miles while the remainder, called the North Channel, gradually narrowing as it proceeds westward, presents a surface, exclusive of the various islands with which it is studded particularly in the eastern end of 1700 square miles; the whole area of the water of the lake would thus appear to be 21000 square miles.